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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:
Richard James Axe } Confirmation No. 9928
Serial No. 10/646,656 } Examiner Marc E. Norman
Filed: August 21, 2003 } Group Art Unit 3744
For: Valves } Attorney Docket 1-24694

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Honorable Sir:

In response to the May 20, 2004 Office Action, please amend the above identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.